



BIGFOOT BULLETIN

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RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

"It is an unfortunate, as well as tragic, circumstance that many Sasquatch investigators are still doing field studies without adequate and suitable equipment. Admittedly, some items are as yet beyond our financial means; however, there are certain articles the lack of which will hinder the competent documentation of physical evidence. Quite often, certain of the more expensive pieces of equipment may be borrowed for field trip use. Others may be purchased at a grocery or variety store and used many times over. The conscientious Sasquatch enthusiast should count the following items among his permanent stock of apparatus :

- 1) 35mm. camera, with two rolls of color film
- 2) Quart of Sears' epoxy resin with catalyst for casting tracks
- 3) 'Cassette' tape recorder with two tapes for recording screams etc.
- 4) Box of large size plastic bags (Baggies) for collecting feces
- 5) Package of 3 X 5 unlined index cards for labeling specimens
- 6) 8 X 35 or 7 X 50 binoculars
- 7) Tape measure to 10 ft. long with large clear numbers
- 8) Standard size white envelopes for collecting hair specimens
- 9) Large felt tip pen for marking cards, samples
- 10) First aid kit with waterproof matches and snakebite kit
- 11) Several highway emergency flares for safety and protection
- 12) Small looseleaf notebook for recording field observations
- 13) Compact guide book to flora and fauna of the area
- 14) Largest, most up-to-date map of area available (New 1969 U.S. Forest Service National Forest Maps are highly recommended)
- 15) Clothing that blends with surroundings and is tight-fitting "

---by DICK FREY, February 1970

Probably all Bigfooters will agree that one of the most frequently asked questions is "How many Bigfeet are there ?". Many non- Bigfooters - the laymen approaching the subject for the first time - think there is only one, due to our habit of referring to Bigfoot in the singular. Few of us engaged in research agree on how many there are ; some say a few hundred and others say there are thousands. We are very pleased to present the following estimate of their numbers by Mr. George B. (Nick) Carter of Bellevue, Washington. Mr. Carter has been researching the subject since 1941 and has recently sent us a 32-page report on his tentative conclusions covering all aspects of the subject. The following is an excerpt from that report and we hope to print further material from it in future issues. Your comments are invited.

--- The Editor.

SASQUATCH POPULATION DENSITY

"Due to an oversight in census taking we have no idea whether the numbers of Sasquatch have increased, decreased or remained fairly steady over the past centuries. Worse, they have checked into the population control centers so infrequently that we have almost no data on them at all. So we will have to estimate.

"Experts on game management state that any breeding group of large bodied mammals is in danger of becoming extinct if their numbers drop below 600. They further state that if this number drops to 300 that animal is past the point of no return, whether it be gorilla, tiger or primitive man. The American buffalo was brought back from a low point of 28, but not on their own ; it required tremendous effort by man to save them. Various articles published in the National Geographic Magazine over the past forty years concerning isolated Indian tribes in the Amazon jungles show that, sadly enough, the above figures are substantially correct.

"The Sasquatch shows no indication of becoming extinct, probably because he has avoided all contact with man, so we may estimate that their total number exceeds 600. The question remaining is, exceeds 600 by how many ?

"Again we must generalize. The flat map area of their range under discussion is about 200,000 square miles, roughly 200 wide by 1,000 long, north and south. In this there are areas under water, salt and fresh, areas above timber line and under permanent glaciers, almost as much area under pavement and some places so steep they approach the vertical. Upward of 4 million human beings live in it, along with their cities, farms, industries, cars, ships, trains, and airplanes, not to mention thousands of domestic animals and a considerable amount of wild game, deer, elk, cougar, bear and miscellaneous. Among the latter are our 600 plus Sasquatch, a very small drop in a big bucket.

"Considering the above, we may arbitrarily reduce the area to about 50,000 square miles which are suitable for their survival, broken up into irregular shaped patches scattered throughout the overall area. This may be on the high side, for every year man pushes deeper and deeper into the wilderness, fouling the air with trail bikes, blasting new roads, felling the forests.

"The next item to consider is how many square miles does a Sasquatch, or a pair, consider to be their home range. Once we have that, a little division will give us our population estimate. What can we use as a basis for our estimate ? The gorilla with its limited mobility does not provide a valid comparison. Neither does the chimpanzee or the orang-utan, which are more tree dweller than land traveller. Sasquatch are known to travel well and fast. Their tracks indicate that an obstacle 43 inches high, a wire fence, was taken in stride. Another was seen to cross an old logging slash in ten minutes, a lesser distance across which took the observer, a husky young hunter, two hours.

"Perhaps the arctic wolf can provide a rough estimate. Farley Mowat observed a den containing a mated pair and an 'uncle' adult male, and four pups. Their staked territory was over a hundred square miles, or approximately 35 square miles per adult. The males covered 30 to 40 miles each night hunting.

"On this basis our Sasquatch population would be around 1500, and this appears to be a reasonable top figure, giving an average of 1100 or so, for a best guess, which is all that it is." - George B. (Nick) Carter, Bellevue, Washington.

BIGFOOT REPORTED KILLED IN PANAMA IN 1920

"In 1920 while I was in Panama an old and experienced American prospector, Shea by name, came to me with a strange story. He had just returned from a trip to southeastern Darien. With another American he had ascended the Sambu River which enters the sea on the southern shore of San Miguel Bay. The country here was, and still is, wholly unknown. Even the mountain range back from the coast did not appear on the maps. Shea and his companion worked their way with great difficulty to the headwaters of the Sambu, and there they became separated. The other American has not been heard from since.

"When Shea lost his companion, he lost his canoe and most of his equipment. So instead of attempting to return down the Sambu, he decided to force his way to the Pacific across the 'Andean Range' to the west. He reached the divide in a state of exhaustion and by a stroke of luck stumbled on an old Indian dugout abandoned on the bank of a small river running into Pinas Bay. It was nearly dark, so he camped for the night at a considerable altitude not far from the divide.

"All that night he heard the footsteps of a large animal in the jungle above his camp. And when dawn came, he heard a curious chattering sound. He looked up and saw standing on top of the bank an animal which appeared to his unscientific mind to be a cross between a negro and a gigantic ape. It was six feet tall, walked erect, weighed possibly three hundred pounds and was covered with long black hair. It was glaring down at him and chattering its teeth in rage.

"Shea whipped out his revolver and shot it through the head. It tumbled down the bank and lay still beside his canoe. When Shea recovered from his fright he measured the animal crudely. It was heavily built like a gorilla, but the big toes on the feet were parallel with the other toes, as in a human being, not opposed like thumbs, as in all other monkeys and great apes.

"Unfortunately Shea was too exhausted to bring any part of the animal back to civilization. He barely managed to get down to Pinas Bay on the Pacific and attract the attention of a coaster which took him to Panama more dead than alive. I saw him many times after that in the hospital where he eventually died of chronic malaria. Almost his last words were a solemn oath that the story of the 'man-beast' was true.

"Of course, my first reaction to this story was extreme skepticism. But I found to my surprise that many trustworthy men who had penetrated into the little-known parts of tropical America did not share my disbelief. The 'man-beast' is reported to have been seen in many locations. A Spanish gold-hunting expedition in the seventeenth century reported that it had shot fourteen of them not far from this same Pinas Bay. The Indians from Equador to Nicaragua assert that the creatures inhabit isolated jungle-covered mountains, as do the gorillas in Africa. Nothing will persuade an Indian to spend the night on such a peak.

"When I returned to Washington and mentioned the matter to Dr. Hough of the Smithsonian, I did not get the pitying smile I was expecting. On the contrary he said he had been getting reports of this sort for twenty years and was inclined to believe there was something in them. Dr. Anthony of the New York Museum of Natural History has a story to tell of encountering a large unknown animal near the summit of Mt. Tacarcuna on the Columbian border. A Frenchman claims to have shot one in Equador. " (From White Indians Of Darien by Richard Oglesby Marsh, G.P. Putnam's Sons, N.Y. 1934. Reprinted in the Bigfoot Bulletin by permission of the publishers.) (Credit : Mark Massingill)

WEIGHT OF GIGANTOPITHECUS

"Bulletin readers might have wondered at Elwyn L. Simons' upward weight estimate of 600 lbs. for a 9 ft. tall Gigantopithecus in his Jan. 1970 Scientific American article. It can be noted from the height-weight scale on p. 2 of Bigfoot Bulletin No. 3 that a 9 ft. tall anything is 3.37 times heavier than a 6 ft. tall replica of the same thing. Figuring 600 lbs. divided by 3.37 we find Simons' animal would have a build resembling that of a 178 lb., 6 ft. tall gorilla, considerably less than half the weight of a 6 ft. tall gorillas in the wild. I suspect Dr. Simons and his partner, Peter C. Ettle, are seriously underestimating the weight of Gigantopithecus and that more accurate figures might fall between 1,300 and 1,600 lbs. -- JIM McCLARIN, Feb. 11, 1970

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

THE ATLANTIC ADVOCATE, October 1969, "Sasquatchery - To Date" by Bruce S. Wright, Director, Northeastern Wildlife Station. (This magazine is published by the University Press of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. Single copies 50¢) (Credit : Loren Coleman) The article was reprinted in ONE WORLD, December 1969, by the Social Studies Council of Alberta, Canada. (Credit : Bruce S. Wright)

WENATCHEE DAILY WORLD, Wenatchee, Washington, February 6, 1970. "Has She Heard Sasquatch?" by Marvin Barham. Fascinating interview with 80-year old Indian woman who says her great-great-great-grandfather was kidnapped and held captive for a year by the Sasquatch. This was about 300 years ago ! She says he described their signals they made to each other while moving or hunting as "whistling noises much the same as an owl's hoot". She herself has never seen a Sasquatch but has heard what she believes to be their signals on the Colville Indian Reservation. (Credit : Clarence Fox).

MAN'S ACTION Magazine, April 1970, "On The Trail Of The Sasquatch, America's Abominable Snowman" by Bryan Stevenson.

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

"There has been little recent activity in this part of the country. The last known track sighting was in August of 1969 when the owner of the Bluff Creek Resort reported finding two 16" prints in a sand bar at the mouth of Bull Creek where it enters the Trinity River a few miles below Weitchpec. For my part, I have been concentrating on the recent John W. Smith report in an attempt to establish the reliability of his story. I drove to Portland two weeks ago and talked to John for several hours and came away very impressed with his story. John allowed me to photograph his photographs which I have since enlarged but which are too indistinct to be of much consequence except that the object pictured is what one would expect a Bigfoot to look like at the distance at which John took his two snapshots (30-35 yards). More important than the pictures, John also gave me quite a large sample of hair which he claims definitely came from a Bigfoot. I sent a sample of this to the Primate Center at the University of California at Davis and they were unable to tell me whether it was from a Primate or some other animal. However, they were very interested and gave me some more addresses to send samples to. I have sent out two more samples and am waiting for replies now."

--- BOB BETTS, Arcata, Calif. Feb. 15, 1970.

"LEAVE BIGFOOT ALONE !"

"Modern civilized man has done one hell of a fine job of studying the American Indian, the buffalo, the passenger pigeon, the Eskimo, the South Sea Islander, the rivers and lakes and everything else he has touched. If we haven't stolen the home, destroyed the food supply, converted or exterminated just about every creature we have ever come in contact with, we have managed to give it our diseases, our vices, our bad habits and tensions. Let's not do that to Bigfoot.

"About all humanity has accomplished so far is to over-populate the world and pave it with beer cans. I can't see how capturing a wild thing and locking it up is going to do anyone any good. We've done a wondrous job of fouling our own nest, let's not foul the nest of Bigfoot, too. I can show you holes in the rivers in Southwestern Oregon that are twenty feet deep and so clear that you could tell heads from tails if you threw a dime in and let it sink to the bottom. I could show you whole townships that have never been walked on by human feet, places where wrecked planes have been lost for years in spite of modern search methods. Yes, I could show you, but I won't. That is BIGFOOT COUNTRY. Let's leave it for Bigfoot. He was there first. Then maybe our descendants can someday read the record and say, 'Our ancestors left ONE area unspoiled, left ONE creature unmolested, maybe they weren't all bad ...' LEAVE BIGFOOT ALONE ! " (Excerpt from the editorial written by Mr. L.J. Costelloe, Editor, in Gun & Creel Magazine, March 1969, and reprinted here with permission of Mr. Costelloe.)



The BIGFOOT BULLETIN is published monthly in the interests of a free exchange of information. It is sent only to hard core researchers who cooperate with news and information. Your editor would greatly appreciate short, brief, concise reports - not over 200 to 300 words- from your area each month. These could be a brief summary of what has been happening in your area : recent sightings, what Bigfooters are doing etc. Please send reports for the next issue in time to reach us by the 25th of each month. When making out reports, please include full details : who, when, what and where ! Reports are not complete otherwise.
-- The Editor.